## Supplementary material

## Non–specific clustering of Histidine tagged Green Fluorescent Protein mediated by surface interactions: the collective effect in the protein– adsorption behaviour

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## Fluorescence Microphotographs

**Figure S1**. Micropatterned surfaces functionalized with NTA after exposure to the His–tagged GFP. The same fragment of chip observed under increased microscope magnifications.

a) NTA-functionalized internal area of squares loaded with nickel(II) ions. Samples were incubated overnight at ambient temperature and subsequently washed with PBS buffer.



**b)** Micropatterned surface after washing with buffer containing 250 mM imidazole (after 1 day of incubation and subsequent washing step).



**Figure S2.** Micropatterned surfaces functionalized with tacn–bis(formyl) after exposure to the His– tagged GFP. The same fragment of chip observed under increased microscope magnifications. **a)** Tacn–bis(formyl)–functionalized internal area of squares after loading with nickel ions. Samples were incubated overnight at ambient temperature and subsequently washed with PBS buffer.









**b)** Micropatterned surface after washing with buffer containing 250 mM imidazole (after 1 day of incubation and subsequent washing step).



**c)** Micropatterned surface after washing with buffer containing 200 mM EDTA (after 5 min of incubation and subsequent washing step).



**d)** His<sub>6</sub>–GFP deposited on the micropatterned surface presenting tacn–bis(formyl) without nickel ions (after overnight incubation and subsequent washing step).



**Figure S3.** Sequence of microphotographs – from 0 s to 60 s after loading of His–GFP on a whole surface of chip functionalized with tacn-bis(formyl) (without nickel ions) in internal area of squares. Protein is deposited directly under fluorescent microscope objective and observed immediately. Images are arranged in a series of pictures taken at a specific time (magnification 100x).



**Figure S4.** Micropatterned surfaces functionalized with N–hydroxysuccinimide ester after exposure to GFP or to fluorescently labeled proteins. The same fragment of chip observed under increased microscope magnifications.

**a)** His–GFP covalently bound to the micropatterned surface; images were acquired after overnight incubation and subsequent washing of chips with PBS buffer.



**b)** FITC–Con A covalently bound to the micropatterned surface; images were acquired after overnight incubation and subsequent washing of chips with PBS buffer.



**c)** Texas Red labeled BSA covalently bound to the micropatterned surface; images were acquired after overnight incubation and subsequent washing of chips with PBS buffer.







100x

200x

400x